

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in the application. The Applicants sincerely thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 21-40 are allowed. The Applicants also thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 2, 7, 12, 17, 42, 47, 52 and 57 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim as well as any intervening claims.

In the interest of furthering prosecution on the merits and in light of the allowed subject matter, the Applicants are canceling claims 41-45, without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection. Furthermore, as suggested by the Examiner, claims 2, 7, 12, 17, 42, 47, 52 and 57 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim as well as any intervening claims.

Therefore in light of this amendment, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3-5, 6, 8-10 and 50, 11, 13-15, 16, 18-20, 21-40, 46, 48-49, 51, 53-55, 56, and 58-60 are allowed. Claims 2, 7, 12, 17, 47, 52, and 57 have been cancelled.


CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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